| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 47. | . | Periyar | I | 7.20 | 1897 |
| 48. | . | Kodaganar | -do- | 0.00 | Under Construction |
| 49. | . | Gunderipallam | II | 0.43 | 1978 |
| 50. | . | Willingdon | -do- | 1.00 | 1923 |
| 51. | . | Siddhamalli | -do- | 3.97 | 1987 |
| 52. | . | Sholayar | -do- | 1.70 | 1971 |
| 53. | . | Perunchani | -do- | 7.20 | 1952 |
| 54. | . | Manimukta Nadhi | -do- | 4.00 | 1970 |
| | | Sub-total (4) : | | 63.35 | |
| | | Grand Total : | | 405.59 | |

**Surface Irrigation Projects**

*212. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had undertaken the construction work of 246 big surface irrigation projects since 1951 to develop means of irrigation in the country;

(b) if so, the number of those projects, which have been completed by the end of March, 1996 out of the above;

(c) whether the construction cost of the remaining projects under construction has escalated due to delay in their completion; and

(d) if so, the percentage of increase in the cost of construction of these projects and the target fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Out of 292 major irrigation projects taken up by the State Governments for construction since beginning of the Plan era in 1951, 129 major irrigation projects have been completed upto March, 1996.

(c) Yes, Sir. The construction cost of remaining projects under execution have escalated due to delay in their completion.

(d) The percentage increase in the cost of construction varies from project to project. Irrigation is a state subject and target for completion of Projects depends upon the funds made available to this sector and priority assigned by States to the Projects. However, Central Government is now making special provisions under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme and Rural Infrastructure Development Fund to assist States in speedy completion of projects.

**Land Under Irrigation**

*213. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any fresh estimate during last year regarding the area of land, which could be covered under irrigation;

(b) if so, the area of such land and its percentage in relation to total agricultural land in the country;

(c) whether the Government have made any estimate in regard to the total area of land covered under irrigation in the country till March, 1996;

(d) if so, the area of the said land; and

(e) the scheme of the Government for providing irrigation facility for the remaining land?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the estimated ultimate irrigation potential was worked out in 1981 as 113.5 Million hectares, which is about 62% of the total culturable area.

(c) and (d) The total area of the land likely to have been covered under irrigation facilities by the end of 1995-96 is 89.42 million hectares.

(e) To extend the irrigation facilities to unirrigated areas, a number of major, medium and minor irrigation schemes are under implementation. To expedite the process, the Central Government has launched a programme nemely, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97. Under AIBP a provision of Rs. 500.00 crores has finally been kept in the Revised budget estimate of the Ministry of Water Resources for 1996-97. An amount of Rs. 1300.00 crores has been earmarked for AIBP in the budget estimates of the Ministry for the year 1997-98.